

(b) and (c) The total requirement of edible oil in the country for the oil year 1991-92 is estimated at 63 lakhs MTs. During this oil year a quantity of 0.95 lakh tonnes of PBD Palmolein has so far been imported. Besides, State Governments have also imported 0.57 lakh tonnes of palmolein directly under a scheme of "Direct Import by States" given by the Government of India. Government of India has decided to import some more quantity of palmolein to meet the PDS demand. Palmolein is generally imported from Malaysia.

Genuineness of the products exported by Multi National Companies

4186. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the products supplied by Multinational Companies are not the same ones which are produced by respective MNCs in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to compel the MNCs to meet their exports obligations by exporting their own products?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Multinational Companies can export products freely as long as these are not in the Negative List of Exports Of the Exports and Import Policy for 1992-97 irrespective of whether the goods have been produced by them or not.

(b) When an export obligation is imposed on Multinational Companies to export products manufactured by them, a commitment is taken by Way of a legal agreement or bond backed with bank guarantee to ensure that they meet such export obligations. In the event of default, punitive provisions of the legal agreement or bond are invoked.

Exports of Software

4187. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total softawre export from India during the years 1990-91 and 1991.92;

(b) what steps were taken to reach the target set in accordance with 1987 software policy to export of softwares to the value of Rupees 3000 crores in the year 1990;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the areas of computer softwares India has an edge with its cheap and trained man power if so, the reasons for not achieving this target;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government are exploring new markets for computer softwares in Germany, if so, the quantum of amount likely to earned through such export; and

(e) whether there is a great possibility of export of software from India, if so, what steps Government are taking to boost software exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The total software export from India as per the Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council has been as under-

(in Rs. Crores)

Year	Export
1990-91	250
1991-92	503

(b) and (c) The target for software export to the level of Rs. 3000 crores by 1990 depended not only on cheap

and trained manpower but also on various other factors. However since the announcement of the policy for integrated development of software for domestic and export market by Department of Electronics, a number of steps have been taken to boost export eg., income-tax exemption on earnings from software export under section 80 HHE, establishment of Software Technology Parks on the lines of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units and gradually providing facilities for High Speed Data Communication for software export through Satellite.

(d) There is no special move by the Government to explore new market in Germany. However, Government is encouraging software exporters to step up exports in all new markets including Germany

(e) There is a good potential of export of software from India. Government is taking a number of steps to boost software export which includes, organising participation of Indian software industries in International fairs, undertaking market survey, encouraging foreign collaboration, policy changes from time to time to suite the software exporters etc.

Negative list of import of drugs

4188. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the negative list of import of drugs has been, made at the instance of the Department of Chemicals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Department of Chemicals had forwarded this list only to protect Public Sector Units under its control; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE; DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes. Sir. The list of drugs included in

the Negative List of Imports of the Export and Import Policy, 1992—97 was prepared on the basis of recommendations by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. These recommendations were based on various factors like availability of indigenous capacities, their sensitivity to imports due to cheaper rate of imported drugs, basic stage indigenous production involving huge investments etc.

(b) No. Sir.

(v) Does not arise.

Strike in MITCO Factories in Girdih

4189. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that there was total strike in the MITCO Factories at Giridih (Bihar) on 16th June, 1992 and it remaining under lock:

(b) whether he is also aware that the payment of that day is being realised by manipulating the register by the staff and the officers recording their attendance next day for that day, with particular reference to the factory No. 4; and

(c) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) There was no strike in MITCO's 'factories at Giridih on 16th June, 1992.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Lack of export order for Andhra Pradesh Tobacco Growers Cooperative Society, Ongole

4190. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVA-JI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Tobacco Growers Co-operative Society, Ongole is holding stocks for want of export order as well as bidders from the domestic cigarette manufacturers;